

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 EB-07 OES-03 AID-05 /093 W

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R 040500Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8515

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 6715

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ID IN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF INDIAN PRESIDENT TO INDONESIA

REF: A. JAKARTA 3504 B. NEW DELHI 6069

1. INDIAN PRESIDENT FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED MADE STATE VISIT TO INDONESIA MAY 26-31. VISIT WAS LARGELY PROTOCOLARY IN NATURE, AND INCLUDED TOURISTIC VISITS TO YOGYAKARTA AND BALI IN ADDITION TO TWO DAYS IN JAKARTA.

2. NO JOINT STATEMENT WAS ISSUED ON VISIT, AND NO REPORTS APPEARED OF SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FAKHRUDDIN AND SUHARTO MAY 27. IN REMARKS AT STATE DINNER MAY 26, FAKHRUDDIN MENTIONED INDINA OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE CONCEPT, "WINDS OF CHANGE IN ASIA" WHICH HE SAID OPENED PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STATES IN REGION, AND POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED INDONESIAN-INDIAN INTERACTION BASED ON INDONESIAN NATURAL
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RESOURCES AND INDIAN TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS. FAKHRUDDIN

ALSO INVITED SUHARTO TO VISIT INDIA "AT A CONVENIENT TIME." SUHARTO'S REMARKS REFERRED TO INDIAN-INDONESIAN COMMON SUPPORT FOR NON-ALIGNMENT CONCEPT, BUT MENTIONED NEITHER INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE NOR SPECIFIC POSSIBILITIES FOR INDIAN-INDONESIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND CLOSED ON NOTE STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR RIGHTS OF SOVEREIGN COUNTRIES TO IMPLEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND RESOLVE NATIONAL PROBLEMS IN THEIR OWN WAY.

3. COMMENTS TO POLICONS BY GOI OFFICIAL (ASIAN DIRECTORATE SECRETARIAT CHIEF AKOSAH) AND TO CHARGE BY ACTING INDIAN DCM MRS. PRASAD REFLECTED LARGELY NON-SUBSTANTIVE NATURE OF VISIT AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. AKOSAH SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH SUHARTO ACCEPTED INDIAN INVITATION AND WILL PROBABLY TRAVEL TO INDIA "NEXT YEAR," CURRENT VISIT PRODUCED NO SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS AND GOI ATTITUDE TOWARDS INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE PROPOSAL REMAINS CAUTIOUS. MRS. PRASAD COMMENTED THAT ONLY SIGNIFICANT RESULT OF VISIT BY THEIR ISLAMIC PRESIDENT FROM INDIAN EMBASSY VIEWPOINT WAS THAT "INDONESIANS NOW REALIZE THAT THERE ARE MUSLIMS IN INDIA."

4. COMMENT: FAKHRUDDIN VISIT UNDOUBTEDLY MADE FURTHER MARGINAL CONTRIBUTION TO INCREASED INTENSITY OF INDIAN-INDONESIAN CONTACTS, WHICH HAVE GROWN PERCEPTIBLY IN RECENT PERIOD WITH VISIT BY INDIAN FOMIN TO JAKARTA 1974 FOLLOWED BY VISITS TO INDIA OF INDONESIAN LEADERS INCLUDING LT. GEN. MURTOPO AND ARMED FORCES DEPUTY COMMANDER SURONO AS WELL AS RECENT SEMINAR IN NEW DELHI INVOLVING INDONESIAN AND INDIAN TEAMS. RECENT CONTACTS (INCLUDING SEMINAR) HAVE SUGGESTED POSSIBLE INDONESIAN INTEREST IN INDIAN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT. AS POINTED OUT BY EMBASSY NEW DELHI (REF B), HOWEVER, INDIAN-INDONESIAN RELATIONS LIKELY REMAIN BASICALLY CAUTIOUS DUE TO OVERLAPPING MUTUAL ASPIRATIONS FOR REGIONAL LEADERSHIP, INDONESIAN RESENTMENT OF ALLEGED INDIAN "ARROGRANCE," AND OTHER RELIGIOUS/CULTURAL DIFFERENCES. REPORTED INDONESIAN INSISTENCE THAT FAKHRUDDIN AS "JUNIOR" PRESIDENT VISIT JAKARTA BEFORE SUHARTO VISITED INDIA REFLECTED BASIC GOI SENSITIVITY OVER STATUS QUESTIONS, AND SUHARTO

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STATE DINNER REMARKS APPEARED TO BE POLITE REMINDER TO INDIANS OF INDONESIAN INTENTION TO EXERCISE INDEPENDENT LEADERSHIP IN ITS AREA OF ASIA. SUCCESSFUL VISIT BY CURRENTLY INDIAN PRESIDENT WITH PROPER ISLAMIC CREDENTIALS ALONE NOT LIKELY SIGNIFICANTLY ALTER MORE BASIC DETERMINANTS OF GOI-GOI RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH IN CLEARING PROTOCOL HURDLES FOR SUHARTO VISIT TO INDIA (FINALLY RETURNING MRS. GANDHI'S 1969 VISIT TO JAKARTA) CURRENT VISIT DOES

SET STAGE FOR POSSIBLE SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES NEXT YEAR.
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